

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 IO-11

TRSE-00 /049 W

----- 110629

R 121250Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3887

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICAO PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH FMG AND ITS EFFECT ON
POSSIBLE FAA AGREEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 41277 (B) MONTREAL 1187 (C) 75 STATE 299754

1. IN RESPONSE REFTELS A AND B, EMBASSY APPROACHED J.H. GERRAND, CHIEF OF PLANNING/EVALUATION/ICAO IN ATTEMPT TO LEARN FURTHER DETAILS OF PROPOSED ICAO AGREEMENT WITH FMG. GERRAND FRIENDLY BUT DECLINED TO PROVIDE REQUESTED DETAILS SAYING HE BELIEVED ANY INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD COME FROM FMG AT ITS DISCRETION.

2. EMBASSY THEN TOOK OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING WITH PERMSEC OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR. B. A. EHIZUENLEN, PLUGGING DILLON ICAO CANDIDACY (SEPTEL) TO BRING UP DRAFT FAA MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND ASK ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ICAO AGREEMENT WHICH WE UNDERSTOOD THEY WERE DISCUSSING. PERMSEC CONFIRMED ICAO DISCUSSION IN PROGRESS BUT PROVIDED NO DETAILS OF THE ICAO PROPOSAL OTHER THAN TO SUGGEST IT WAS BEING CONSIDERED AS AN ALTERNATIVE RPT ALTERNATIVE TO THE DRAFT FAA AGREEMENT. DECISION ON WHICH, IF EITHER PROPOSAL TO ACCEPT WOULD BE MADE IN "ONE TO TWO MONTHS."

3. COMMENT: MEETING BETWEEN EMBOFF AND PERMSEC FRIENDLY AND CORDIAL. PERMSEC HAS BEEN ON JOB LESS THAN SIX MONTHS, IS NEW
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TO CIVIL AVIATION, AND HAS HANDS FULL MASTERING TECHNICAL DETAILS.

NEVERTHELESS, HE HAS DONE HOMEWORK ON THIS SUBJECT AND IS ACQUAINTED WITH HISTORY OF FAA DRAFT AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. HE REPLIED TO EMBOFF QUESTIONS THOUGHTFULLY AND WITH APPARENT CANDOR.

4. MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION SEEMS A BIT CHAGRINED AT BEING CAUGHT EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES TO FAA AGREEMENT. STICKING POINT APPARENTLY MONEY. FMG HAS HAD GOOD EXPERIENCE WITH FAA IN NIGERIA, VIEWS FAA CALIBER INSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS AS WITHOUT EQUAL, BUT RELUCTANT TO PAY WHAT THEY SEE HAS HIGH COSTS FAA DEMANDS. PERMSEC CHARACTERIZED ICAO PROPOSAL AS FMG EXAMINATION OF "LOWER COST ALTERNATIVE" TO FAA PROPOSAL. EMBOFF MADE POINTS IS FAVOR OF FAA INCLUDING ITS AUTHORSHIP OF STUDY WHOSE RECOMMENDATIONS PROPOSED AGREEMENT SEEKS TO IMPLEMENT, FMG UTILIZATION OF AND SATISFACTION WITH FAA TRAINING IN U.S., AND FAA SUCCESS IN ASSISTING CIVIL AIR SECTORS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. PERMSEC CONCEDED THESE POINTS READILY BUT IMPLIED COST-CONSCIOUS FMG BELIEVES IT IN FACT WILL GET LARGE PROPORTION OF U.S. TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY THROUGH ICAO RECRUITING. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF QUESTION, PERMSEC SAID NO RPT NO THOUGHT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO SIMULTANEOUS USAGE OF BOTH FAA AND ICAO PERSONNEL OR "MARRIAGE" OF TWO PROPOSALS.

5. COMMENT: MINISTRY FACES DECISION WHETHER TO CHOOSE ICAO OR FAA ASSISTANCE PROPOSALS. EMBASSY CONCERNED HOWEVER THAT MINISTRY BASING CHOICE ON FAA APRIL 75 DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH DOES NOT REFLECT CURRENT FAA THINKING (REF C). IN ALL FAIRNESS, ALTERATIONS IN FAA PROPOSAL SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO MINISTRY'S ATTENTION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. WE SUGGEST THAT FAA FURNISH DATA FOR DISCUSSION WITH MINISTRY OFFICIALS EITHER BY EMBOFFS OR BY FAA REPRESENTATIVES.
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